



# Bannock County

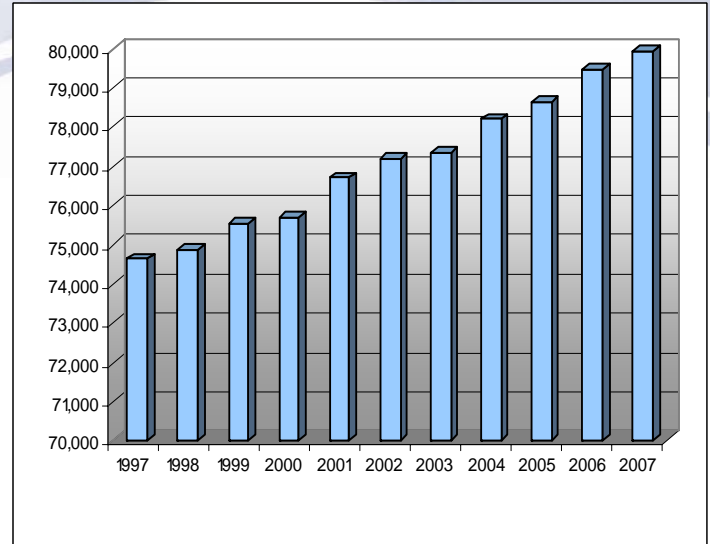
October 2008

## Population

Bannock County's diverse recreational opportunities, striking scenery, access to higher education and location at the intersection of a major north-south and east-west interstate system contributes to population growth and the economy. Bannock County's population has grown from 75,565 in 2000 to 79,925 in 2007. That is an average of growth rate of about one percent per year. Population growth has been below the state's level primarily because northern Idaho and the Treasure Valley have had growth rates which rank among the top in the nation. Bannock County and southeastern Idaho are now being discovered and it is anticipated area growth rates will increase.

Pocatello, the county seat, is nestled in the foothills of the Portneuf River Valley. It is a major trade area for southeastern Idaho and home to Idaho State University and Pebble Creek Ski Area. Spectacular Lava Hot Springs features geothermal heated pools, which add to the year-round tourism enjoyed throughout the area.

## Work Force Trends

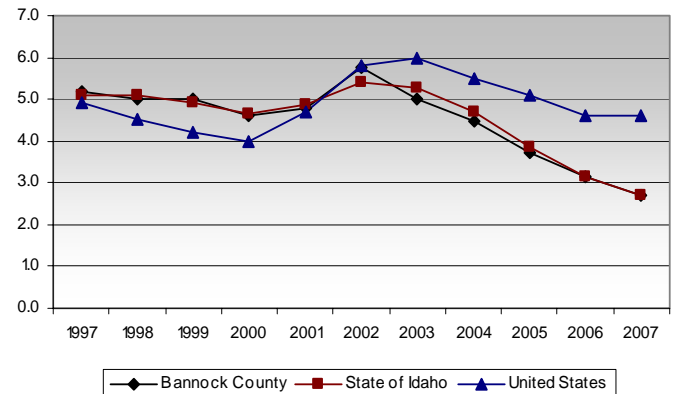


## Labor Force & Employment

Bannock County enjoys a diverse and highly-skilled labor force with an excellent work ethic. During the early 1990s, major business expansions and relocations positively affected employment in Bannock County.

Over the last decade, mining operations decreased as food manufacturing and construction activity increased dramatically. Much of the construction activity has been residential building but major commercial construction projects, such as new shopping centers, highway upgrades. Idaho Central Credit Union's state headquarters, three new motels, four new banks, and projects at Idaho State University, kept construction workers busy all year. Larger employers such as Convergys, Heinz, Quest and Varsity Contractors continue to grow and hire additional workers. The number of retail jobs have also increased dramatically the past couple of years as established business grew and

### Unemployment Rates



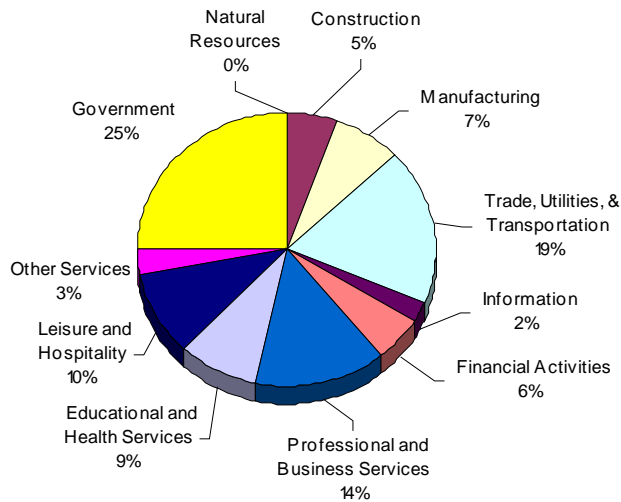
repositioned themselves in the market. In the past couple of years several new retail businesses moved into the area.

After several years of declining number of workers it appears the transportation industry is growing once again. Reversing recent trends of job consolidation Union Pacific Railroad has been steadily adding workers and the number of workers employed by truck transport employers is growing as area business activity increases. Construction work has slowed but many construction worker remain in the area anticipating more commercial construction project

Labor Force	Sep 2007	Sep 2008
Civilian Labor Force	42,617	41,856
Total Employment	41,532	39,966
Unemployed	1,086	1,890
% of Labor Force Unemployed	2.5	4.5
State of Idaho % Unemployed	2.7	5.0
U.S. % Unemployed	4.7	6.1

Labor Force	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Civilian Labor Force	38,619	39,209	39,302	38,397	37,893	38,622	39,398	39,813	40,193	40,108	40,130
Unemployment	2,013	1,951	1,959	1,764	1,805	2,225	1,968	1,786	1,492	1,258	1,082
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.2	5.0	5.0	4.6	4.8	5.8	5.0	4.5	3.7	3.1	2.7
Employment	36,606	37,258	37,343	36,633	36,088	36,396	37,430	38,028	38,701	38,849	39,048

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2007



## Industry Employment & Wages

The trade and service industries provide nearly half the jobs in Bannock County. This tends to lower the overall average of wages in the county because many of these jobs are food service jobs which are part time and pay the lowest wages. The Government sector provides a quarter of the jobs in Bannock County because Pocatello is the location of Idaho State University, the Idaho Women's Correctional Facility, FBI Western Region Customer Support Center, US Federal Court House, US Forest Service, BLM, Idaho Fish & Game as well as school districts and cities.

Wages in Bannock County are lower than in most of the United States and fall in about the middle of all Idaho counties.

## Major Employers

ON Semiconductor, Inc.
Convergys Customer Management
Farm Bureau Insurance
Farmers Insurance
Heinz Frozen Foods
Idaho State University
Portneuf Medical Center
Qwest Communications
Teleperformance USA
Union Pacific Railroad

## Occupational Wages\*

## Starting Wage

Assemblers/Production Workers	\$9.03
Cashiers & Retail Sales	\$6.19
Clerks, General Office	\$9.99
Corrections Officers	\$13.10
Customer Service Reps.	\$7.71
Home Health & Nurses Aides	\$7.69
Janitors and Cleaners	\$7.37
Maintenance & Repair Workers	\$9.87
Nurses, Registered	\$19.83
Secretaries & Admin. Assistants	\$8.46
Teachers	\$31,750.00
Telemarketers	\$7.98
Truck Drivers	\$9.35

\* Additional Occupational Wage data can be found on the Department of Labor Web site at [lmi.idaho.gov](http://lmi.idaho.gov).

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 1997, 2006, & 2007	1997		2006		2007	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
<b>Total Covered Wages</b>	28,116	\$22,025	34,280	\$28,267	34,892	\$29,015
<b>Agriculture</b>	63	\$15,635	101	\$21,398	97	\$22,627
<b>Mining</b>	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Construction</b>	1,822	\$23,663	1,972	\$26,891	2,012	\$28,975
<b>Manufacturing</b>	2,702	\$31,502	2,533	\$46,352	2,529	\$49,113
<b>Trade, Utilities, &amp; Transportation</b>	5,937	\$20,163	6,244	\$25,377	6,289	\$26,203
<b>Information</b>	396	\$21,363	678	\$31,351	758	\$29,970
<b>Financial Activities</b>	1,457	\$25,304	1,744	\$36,830	1,793	\$37,162
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	1,820	\$20,097	5,284	\$21,989	5,374	\$22,866
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	2,432	\$24,317	3,151	\$28,094	3,290	\$28,589
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	3,238	\$7,799	3,422	\$10,418	3,621	\$10,638
<b>Other Services</b>	897	\$16,543	772	\$22,641	778	\$23,351
<b>Government</b>	7,344	\$25,717	8,355	\$35,163	8,327	\$35,893

Per Capita Income	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Bannock County</b>	\$18,501	\$19,411	\$19,915	\$20,833	\$21,903	\$22,284	\$22,805	\$24,101	\$24,749	\$25,871
<b>State of Idaho</b>	\$20,648	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,077	\$25,024	\$25,221	\$25,524	\$27,361	\$28,301	\$29,920
<b>United States</b>	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,843	\$30,574	\$30,821	\$31,504	\$33,123	\$34,757	\$36,714

Information provided by Idaho Commerce & Labor.



This county is served by the office located at the address below:  
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[labor.idaho.gov](http://labor.idaho.gov)

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